

# Ron's Electric, Inc.

Contractor's License No. C-19916



April 10, 2006

Honorable Louis Abrams, Chair  
Charter Commission, County of Kauai  
4444 Rice Street, suite 235  
Lihue, HI 96766

Re: Proposed Charter Amendment #11, Salary Commission

Dear Chair Abrams and Members of the Charter Commission:

My testimony is in SUPPORT of the proposed amendment whereby the recommendations of the Kauai County Salary Commission would be effective unless vetoed by a super majority of the Kauai County Council. I am Ron Sakoda, the owner of Ron's Electric and also the liaison for Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

Working in the government sector requires a person who has administrative, managerial, and specialized skills depending on the Department they are running. These Department heads need also to be good public speakers who can address hard questions in multiple public forums. They are often times running departments that are larger than the vast majority of the businesses on Kauai. Yet we offer them pay that is lower than anything in the private sector. And we often have their staff earning more than they do in civil service and with fewer responsibilities.

This amendment will allow an independent group of citizens to look at both the private sector and the other islands public sector and come to realistic compensation levels for our government officials to County Council. It will allow Council to veto any proposal they deem inappropriate. The balance will be there.

Your support to include the proposed Charter Commission Amendment #11 on the November ballot is requested. Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Ron Sakoda

SC  
5/3/06